Coal Supply to Thermal Power Stations

4020. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have lifted the ban on supply of coal to the Thermal Power Stations;

(b) if so, whether all the State Electricity Boards have agreed to pay in advance for Coal Supplies; and

(c) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). As per the directions of Ministry of Coal, all power utilities are required to make advance payments for supply of coal from Ist October, 1991. The power utilities have, however, represented against 100% advance payment under the Cash & Carry Scheme due to large scale adjustment in bills required to be carried out on account of short supply of coal, low grade. supply of coal etc.

[*Translation*]

Bonus to Employees of Department of Posts, Telegraph & Telephones

4021. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Departments of Post (Civil), Telegraph and Telephones have been given 48 day's bonus and the employees of Department of Posts have been given only 31 day's bonus;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether all the above departments are under the same Ministry; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for removal of this disparity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Two independent Departments Viz the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of Posts are functioning under the Ministry of Communications. The employees working in the above Departments were paid bonus for 48 days' and 31 days' respectively for the financial year 1990-91.

(b) The bonus is paid on the basis of productivity achieved by its employees during a particular year. The two departments have their separate resources and yardsticks to measure productivity depending upon the nature of service and profitability thereon.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to part (b) the question of removal of disparity does not arise.

[*English*]

Regional Power Tariff Commissions

4022. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
KUMARI DEPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Five regional power tariff commis-

sions proposed" appearing in the Economic Times dated the October 20, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these commissions are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). As per the consensus reached at the Power Ministers' Conference held in September, 1990, there is a proposal to set up five Regional Power Tariff Boards, to work out the charges to be recovered by each utility from consumers within its territory, based on the cost of supply of power at the LT point and make recommendations to the State Govts., who will decide the cost of power to be levied from each group of consumers. It is expected that these Boards will start functioning from early 1992-93.

Arms to Uttar Pradesh to Tackle Terrorism

4023. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has asked for sophisticated weapons from the Union Government to takcle growing menance of terrorism in the State;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have supplied sophisticated weapons to the State Government as per their requirement; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government of Uttar Pradesh have asked for some sophisticated weapons to tackle terrorism in the State.

(c) and (d). Some sophisticated weapons have been allocated to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh Keeping in view the availability of sophisticated weapons, requirements of the other State Governments and the Central Police/Para-military forces.

Proposal to Set up High Power Transmission Station at Rourkela

4024. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to instal a high power T.V. Transmitter Station at Rourkela and Low Power Transmitters at Hemgir and Bonai in the Sundargarh District of the Orissa State; and

(b) if so, the time by which these T.V. Transmitter Stations are likely to be made functional?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No such proposals are under the consideration of Government at present.

Spread of Literacy through Doordarshan

4025. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: